

Message Text

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STADIS//////////

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM SHLAUDEMAN

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:PFOR

SUBJECT:ARA WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

1. SUMMARY: IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE VARIOUS BICENTENNIAL SPECTACULARS, IT HAS BEEN ANOTHER QUIET WEEK. I MET WITH OAS SECRETARY GENERAL ORFILA. WE HAVE ESTABLISHED A WORKING GROUP ON HUMAN RIGHTS. JOE GRUNWALD TESTIFIED BEFORE CONGRESSIONAL SUBCOMMITTEE ON OUR LATIN AMERICA TRADE POLICY. PETE VAKY WAS SWORN IN. THE WOODROW WILSON CENTER WILL OPEN A LATIN AMERICA STUDIES PROGRAM.

2. OAS: I LUNCED WITH ALEX ORFILA AND HIS SENIOR STAFFERS. ALL AGREED THAT THE SANTIAGO MEETING WAS THE BEST IN RECENT MEMORY AND THAT ITS SUCCESS WAS DUE TO THE SECRETARY'S ATTENDANCE AND TO THE POSITIVE PROPOSALS HE BROUGHT WITH HIM. ORFILA THOUGHT OUR IDEAS ON DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION WERE PARTICULARLY CONSTRUCTIVE AND CONTRASTED OUR ACTIVISM WITH PREVIOUS MEETINGS WHERE WE ANNOUNCED WE WERE THERE
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ONLY TO LISTEN TO THE LATINS. HE FOUND THE HUMAN RIGHTS

DEBATE A REAL BREAKTHROUGH BUT FORSEES A POSSIBLE CONFRONTATION DOWN THE ROAD BETWEEN THE MILITARY REGIMES AND THE LESS HARD-HANDED HEMISPHERE GOVERNMENTS.

3. HUMAN RIGHTS; I HAVE ASKED BILL LUERS TO CHAIR A WORKING GROUP ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO CLARIFY OUR POLICY. IT WILL PUT TOGETHER A PAPER EVALUATING THE EXTENT OF OUR INTERESTS AND OBLIGATIONS IN THE CONTEXT OF OUR COMMITMENTS AND HEMISPHERIC REALITIES. WE WILL SUMMARIZE THE CONCLUSIONS TO THE FIELD.

4. TRADE POLICY: JOE GRUNWALD TESTIFIED ON U.S.-TRADE POLICY BEFORE THE JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE'S SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTER-AMERICAN ECONOMIC RELATIONS. REPRESENTATIVES GILLIS LONG, CHAIRMAN, AND DANTE FASCELL WERE PRESENT. IN THE QUESTIONING LONG AND FASCELL SAID THAT U.S. POLICY INITIATIVES ON TRADE PRIMARILY BENEFIT THE LARGER AND MORE INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS OF THE REGION, BUT DO LITTLE FOR THE NUMEROUS SMALLER ONES. JOE INDICATED THAT WE FAVOR ACCELERATION OF THE PROCESS OF LATIN AMERICAN ECONOMIC INTEGRATION WHICH WOULD TEND TO ENHANCE THE ECONOMIC PROSPECTS OF SMALLER NATIONS. HE ALSO INDICATED THAT THE HARKIN AMENDMENT, IF CARRIED OUT BROADLY, WOULD JEOPARDIZE THE FUNCTIONING OF THE INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK. THIS NEW ORLEANS HEARING WAS THE FOLLOW-UP TO THE JUNE 29 SESSION IN WASHINGTON AT WHICH BILL ROGERS TESTIFIED.

5. SWEARING IN: PETE VAKY WAS SWORN IN WEDNESDAY, JULY 7, AS AMBASSADOR TO VENEZUELA, WITH THE SECRETARY DOING THE HONORS. THE SECRETARY SAID THAT THERE WAS NO COUNTRY IN LATIN AMERICA MORE IMPORTANT TO OUR INTERESTS THAN VENEZUELA. PETE, REFERRING TO HIS THREE AMBASSADORIAL POSTS IN LESS THAN FOUR YEARS, NOTED THAT HIS SON HAD ASKED WHY HE COULD NOT HOLD ON TO A JOB'

6. LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES: THE WOODROW WILSON CENTER FOR SCHOLARS WILL ESTABLISH A SPECIAL PROGRAM FOR LATIN AMERICA EARLY NEXT YEAR WHICH WILL BE SIMILAR TO THE KENNAN PROGRAM FOR SOVIET STUDIES.
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7. CONGRESSIONAL SCHEDULE: FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE, THE TENTATIVE CONGRESSIONAL SCHEDULE IS AS FOLLOWS:
RECESSED UNTIL JULY 18-19;
IN SESSION UNTIL THE REPUBLICAN CONVENTION, AUGUST 13-23;
IN SESSION FROM AUGUST 24 UNTIL LABOR DAY BREAK,
SEPTEMBER 3-7;
IN SESSION FROM SEPTEMBER 8 UNTIL ABOUT OCTOBER 1.

8. HEW RYAN WILL MAKE A FAST TEN-DAY SWING THROUGH
ARGENTINA-,URUGUAY, BRAZIL AND PERU STARTING NEXT TUESDAY.
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